State of California

Fish and Game Commission

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NEWS RELEASE FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

California Fish and Game Commission Appeals the Superior Court Ruling Regarding California Tiger Salamander

The Fish and Game Commission today filed an appeal to the recent ruling from the Sacramento County Superior Court regarding the California Tiger Salamander (CTS).

The ruling ordered the Commission to accept the initial petition to list the CTS under the California Endangered Species Act (CESA), declare CTS a candidate species, and proceed with the listing process.

As background, in October 2004, the Commission voted to reject the Center for Biological Diversity's petition to list the California Tiger Salamander as a potential endangered species, having rejected a similar petition by the same proponents in 2001.

The Commission formally adopted its Notice of Findings in December 2004, which explained its reasons for rejection of the petition in detail. Specifically, the Commission found deficiencies in three areas of the petition: population trend, population abundance and degree and immediacy of threat.

The decision to challenge the Court Ruling was made at the Commission's Feb. 1, 2007, Executive Session, and unanimously supported by all five Commissioners.

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